

In response to CW being the 'purest, most accurate, effiecent, reliable and economical form of radio communications ever devised' - I agree to a point. Plain english spoken is easily understood by the masses and does not require deciphering on sending or receiving ends making it quicker.

As an Emergency Telecommunicator I see no need to retain CW in the interest of public safety. To me that is an unfounded expression trying to take hold upon the mercy of ones heart in the wake of tragic events.

I agree it is a beautiful artform that should not go by the wayside. Keep it around, but just not mandatory; rather optional.

I waited over 8 years to get my ticket because of CW being required when I was first introduced to HAM radio. I could not and can still not master the system today - and because of that I was prohibited from joining in with fellow citizens who desire to serve their community in times of need.

In the Fire & EMS community we do not use non voice transmissions to relay critical emergency communications - rather plain english (with local areas often having what are called "10" codes to quicken understanding). To me that is proof that CW is not needed. If I as a Firefighter and Paramedic can relate the condition of my patient to a Dr in plain english and be understood in an emergency; why must I have a CW exam to use the HF radio waves?

Respectfully Submitted.